

DIARY NOTES

DD/S

1 February 1966

Snow Problem. Progress on clearing the snow from the parking lots and adjacent areas proceeded very well. The pick-up system of stranded essential employees through chauffeurs and buses was most effective. For 1 February a work force of 50% and a parking facility at 40% had been established and no problems developed. In the late afternoon weather reports indicated a possibility of a heavy additional snowfall, together with sleet, which might pose an emergency situation. The new estimates of snowfall of approximately three inches with sleet would not pose much of a problem. However, the high estimates could pose a major problem and I called a meeting at 3:30 with representatives of Logistics Services Division, the GSA Building Manager, Security, and Medical Staff and a review was made of our status in the event of the worst possible contingency that might develop out of this snowstorm. It was agreed we would take a number of measures such as holding essential service personnel overnight to ensure continuation of services for the cafeteria and snack bar, engineers to operate the generators, doctors and nurses, chauffeurs, telephone operators, assurances of adequate guards and char force continuing in operation, snow plows and front-end loaders to remove snow (already on the ground and that predicted to fall), and 200 cots, blankets, for emergency use in Headquarters building. I alerted the Director, the Deputies, and the Executive Director-Comptroller of this possible contingency and suggested that each Deputy consider what emergency measures he might wish to invoke in his operational forces to ensure continuation of operations predicated upon the varying estimates of snowfall, which could reach serious proportions if the worst predictions came through. Each Deputy set up an emergency force to spend the night in Headquarters Building. Colonel White, an were the senior officers in their areas, with appropriate other senior officers in DD/I and DD/S&T. The snowfall proved minimal during the night--about three to four inches--and no problem resulted as the heavy part of the storm by-passed Washington and fell in nearby areas.

I requested that a chronological record be established of the emergency actions taken beginning on Saturday, 29 January, to meet and handle the emergency situation that developed. A number of lessons were learned through this emergency which will prove useful for future emergencies. I also asked that letters of commendation be prepared for my signature to each of the DD/S employees who worked over the weekend and performed emergency services in this situation. Particularly outstanding were the services rendered by the chauffeurs, truck drivers, guards, Security and the

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